

Board of Interpreting Standards Meeting Minutes

11-18-09

12:00 pm-4:00 pm

Attendance: Rhonda Marcum (DHHS), Deka Oliver (DHHS), Julie Armstrong, MJ Herrema-Olson, Roger Norrod, Rebecca Buchan, and Carrie Westhoelter (Chair)
Not in attendance: Karen Horvath and Richard Noel

The meeting began at 12:15. The first agenda for the meeting was to summarize the questions/comments from all the town hall meetings and offer formal responses and answers that would be posted on the DHHS website.

The BIS' formal comments and responses to all of the town hall meetings will be compiled in a separate document to be posted on the website and will not be included in the meeting's minutes.

Deka gave a brief history lesson on the different state certification categories.

Rhonda added information on the non-IIC category. Rhonda stated that she would like to see some kind of pre-IIC screening test to assure skill level. Non-IIC still has to have consumer approval in order to interpret.

Roger proposed that the "Grandfathering" be taken away from the state certification process. There seems to be two different "camps" of supporters. One group likes the idea of state licensure; the other does not. These two "camps" were noticed throughout the town hall meetings. Perhaps BIS needs to consider a new type of IIC that is more stringent.

BIS will start investigating other state licensures to make sure Indiana makes an informed decision.

A common theme from Town Hall meetings was a question about who governs interpreters. It was stated that it should be a neutral party. It should not be under DHHS.

Rhonda added that the law states that grievances with interpreters should go to the Director of DHHS and if the complaint is valid, then it is submitted to BIS.

Deka suggested that we invite a lawyer for FSSA (Bob Sembroski) to the January meeting to talk about how to create/change laws. The next BIS meeting would be held downtown to accommodate the lawyer.

There was discussion of board members who have not been able to meet the stated requirements to be a member of the board. Carrie suggested that board ask for two resignations or inform them that they are no longer on the board. The entire board was unanimously supportive of this change. Rhonda has several possible applicants who have previously contacted her.

Karen Horvath had emailed information about the standards, licensure, etc. from other states. This item was tabled. All of the members received handouts of this information.

Carrie suggested that we get a video-recording of MJ using ASL to discuss the process for filing a grievance and then posting it to the DHHS website. The same approval process for printed documents is required for a video to be posted on the website. Carrie will develop a grievance form based on the SSBG to submit for approval.

Should the board vote on new members before the next BIS meeting? What does that process look like?

The BIS will have an informal meeting at Panera (82nd and Allisonville) Dec. 16th 4p-6:00pm, to vote on two new candidates.

Carrie will have binders made for each board member with pertinent information for the board including the current law, Code 460, for us to begin a full-scale review for consideration of necessary updates or possible revisions.

NEXT BIS MEETING: January 20th 8:00a-12:00pm, downtown at the Indiana Government Center.